

# Ormesby Village Infant & Junior Schools Federation

Headteacher: Mr. Bradley Young



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## HEADTEACHER'S TERMLY NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM 2025

### Happy New Year!

Welcome back and I hope you, like us, are all looking forward to what successes and achievements 2025 can bring. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break too. Once again, I hope that the items in this termly newsletter will act as a good source of information for the term to come. May I also take this opportunity to welcome any new families we have had join us.

### Our Vision and Values Reminder

At our Ormesby Village Infant and Junior Schools Federation, we have a clear vision for the future which we want all within our family community to absorb and remember. Our Village Schools Federation is a nurturing environment underpinned by strong British values. We are a beacon of inclusiveness; a family community where each child is treated as an individual, and outstanding teaching helps them to discover and develop their unique talents and abilities. At our Infant school, our entire community is always **learning to grow: growing to learn** as it develops how it interacts, learns and plays. At our Junior school, everyone **aspires** to be the best they can be, everyone **acquires** the knowledge and skills to be a valuable future citizen of the world and everyone **achieves** success from the many opportunities they are provided with, no matter what their starting points. Vision Captions: **Learning to Grow: Growing to Learn (INF) & Aspire, Acquire, Achieve (JNR)**

### Our Ofsted Inspection Report

Last term at the Junior school, Ofsted visited and despite the gruelling nature of the two days, the school achieved a fantastic outcome which included an 'outstanding' judgement for Behaviour and Attitudes, which the pupils' and staff's efforts fully deserved. We have a couple of areas to work on, which we have already begun to address in order to continue to move our Federation forward.

### Our SENDIASS Coffee Morning

As you will have seen from the flyer recently distributed our SENDCo Team is hosting another SENDIASS coffee morning for parents from both schools should they wish to attend to obtain any advice or guidance from a visiting SEND specialist.

### Our Safeguarding Team

If you have any safeguarding issues, please contact the school to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead. These are: **Mr. Young, Miss. McMylor, Mrs. Holt (JNR) and Mrs. Vaughan (INF).**

### Our Expectations for Attendance, Punctuality and Illness

We expect the highest levels of attendance in school for all children in order to obtain the best possible education. This will always be a priority. If children are not unwell, they must be in school each day and on time. Being late can sometimes happen from time to time, but the accumulation of time for pupils arriving late to school on a regular basis negatively impacts their learning. Not only this, but it is very disruptive to the beginning of a child's day as important, early morning tasks are missed; the dynamic of the class is unsettled by late arrivals and the late children themselves are more anxious about starting their day. If your child is late, you must bring them to the school office, please do not send them directly to the classrooms. Our schools' attendance team will always address pupils with late and low attendance and we have letters that will be sent out reminding families of the importance of daily attendance. We are sure this will be sufficient in ensuring attendance figures continue to remain high. If your child is ill, please notify the school office giving a specific reason for their absence. If a pupil's

absence is due to repeated illness, the school may ask for evidence from a medical professional via the Healthy Child Programme to support this. More information about illnesses and their corresponding quarantine periods can be found on our websites.

### **Our Musical Events**

I hope you enjoyed the different Christmas performances that you were invited to before the holidays. It was great to see so many of our families supporting their children, once again. The Key Stage Two Carol Concert and Family Carol Service at the Church really highlighted the musical prowess of our pupils, through their singing and instrument playing. Furthermore, the Infant Christmas Countdown Performance was equally as entertaining and got better each time I saw it. For their centenary year, we are aiming to enter into the Norfolk County Music Festival in March. Mrs. White-Joubert will be working hard this term rehearsing songs with the Infant and Junior school pupils. I am sure the pupils will make us all proud at the event for the fourth year running.

### **Our Outdoor Learning**

If you have not already done so, please read this just as a polite reminder asking for children to bring in an inexpensive pair of Wellington boots, which can be kept in school, allowing them to be able to use our nature areas at both schools regularly and safely all year round, especially if it is a little wet underfoot. We love going outside, to use our pond and nature areas as part of our curriculum studies, but also to undertake conservation activities.

### **Our Curriculum Celebration Events**

Last term, we held our Autumn curriculum celebration events and I was so pleased that so many of our families could attend to look through the learning books with their children. Once again, we received some very lovely feedback and look forward to inviting you back in towards the end of the Spring Term to see further progress and pupils articulating with confidence about their learning. For Spring Term, we have decided to move these ahead of our parent-teacher meetings to see if this helps parents see how well their children are doing prior to seeing the class teachers. These will be held on 25.3.25 at the Junior school 2:30-3:30pm and at the Infant school on 26.3.25 from 2:15-3:15pm.

### **Our Parent-Teacher Meetings**

Nearer the end of the Spring term, we will have another round of parent-teacher meetings. These worked really well in the Autumn alongside our termly report cards and proved to continue to be convenient for our families. The schools are dedicating another week to arranging ten-minute meetings with parents either over the telephone or via Google Meet virtually. Where it is more helpful to the pupil, teachers and parents will arrange face-to-face meetings. Again, these meetings will take place at agreed times beginning on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. More information regarding booking appointments via an online link will be released nearer the time. Do not fear! You will be able to see your children's books because our Curriculum Celebration Events (see paragraph above) will take place in the previous week.

### **Our SATs Boosting**

The Junior school will be running an after-school Boosting club for Year 6 pupils in preparation for their SATs that take place in the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> May. These will run on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm beginning on 14<sup>th</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025. More information will be coming out about this to the relevant year group in due course. We hope everyone will attend to get a little more confidence and reassurance about any areas where more help is needed.

### **Our Easter Events**

I am pleased to say that there will be a return of our fun Easter events nearer the end of this term. There is a separate Spring Term Calendar of Events being sent out to parents. We are looking forward to an Easter bonnet parade at the Infants, a Decorate-an-Egg competition at Junior school not to mention the Easter Egg raffle we will hold in both schools using any chocolate egg donations we receive from our non-uniform day on 28.3.25.

### **Our Wraparound Care and Extra-Curricular School Clubs**

We hope to be able to continue to offer extra-curricular clubs at lunchtimes and after-school. Mr. Young's Years 5 & 6 Boy's Football club will begin Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January and will end at 4:30pm. Premier Sports will continue with their sporting clubs after school. At the Infant school, they will be running a Handball club on Thursdays 3:15pm-4:15pm At the Junior school, they will be running a mixed Quidditch club for Years 3 & 4 on Tuesdays and they will

continue to run girls' Football for Years 4, 5 and 6 on a Friday. Both running from 3:30pm-4:30pm. Wednesdays will continue to be a mixed Years 3 and 4 football club also running from 3:30pm-4:30pm. If light is poor, clubs may finish earlier for safety until parents arrive to collect at the normal time. Further sporting enrichment sessions as a curriculum treat will take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February run by Premier Sports in both schools. Please ensure your child is wearing sports' clothing on this day. Premier are also coming in to conduct an inter-school virtual competition in Archery on 17<sup>th</sup> January, where children need to be in PE kits once again.

Musically, we are fortunate to have Mrs. White-Joubert (Piano, Dance, Singing and Violin) and Mr. Harris (Drums) at the Junior school, who can provide peripatetic music sessions for those budding musicians. If your child is interested in learning a new instrument, please inform the school office.

Our After-School Wraparound Care Club operates on Mondays to Wednesdays. Monday is multi-sports at the Infant school 3:15pm-5:00pm, Tuesday is gymnastics with Mrs. Bailey 3:15pm-4:45pm at the Infant school and Wednesdays is also multi-sports 3:30pm-5:00pm, but held at the Junior school. The Ormesby Pre-School also operates a Breakfast and After-School Club each day should families require this additional service which many of our pupils do access.

### **Our PTFA Mid-Week Movie**

The P.T.F.A. or Friends of Ormesby Village Schools Federation is a vital committee to help raise much-needed funds for further school improvement. Our current PTFA have already held discos, doughnut/lolly sales and held a fantastic Christmas colour raffle. All were genuine successes with the latter raising £880 to be reinvested back into the schools. Thank you for everyone's generosity and efforts. The PTFA have already helped both schools acquire new playground markings and they may now be helping us to purchase new break-time equipment and new IPADS. The next PTFA event will be a mid-week movie at both schools, which is likely to be held at the Infant school on 12<sup>th</sup> February and at the Junior school the following day on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025. This will be confirmed nearer the time. If you are interested in assisting the PTFA, please contact the Chair, Mrs. Jessica Clevely at [ormesbyvillageschoolspta@gmail.com](mailto:ormesbyvillageschoolspta@gmail.com)

### **Our Visitor Conduct**

As always, we are grateful for your continued support and understanding with how our Federation operates. Nevertheless, we expect all stakeholders to conduct themselves appropriately and politely when interacting with our staff or one another either in person, via the telephone or through email. Any rudeness to staff will not be tolerated. Ultimately, we are all working towards the same goal and that is to provide our children with the best possible school experiences.

### **Our Educational Visits and Trips**

We strive very hard to arrange a variety of educational and sporting trips to enhance the learning of our curriculums and provide outlets for personal and collective achievements of our pupils. Last term, was full of different opportunities across the Federation, which we were happy to organise and offer, however the school, sadly, cannot subsidise these trips and we encourage parents to contribute towards the costs of them. We fully appreciate the cost of living crisis, but without sufficient funds the range of trips we have been offering will need to be reduced. We hope this will not be necessary and both schools can continue to offer such excursions.

### **Our Governors**

We had a very successful Governor Challenge Day last term, where some of our Governors visited to speak to staff and pupils about our curriculum learning, notably with a focus on mathematics. We are looking forward to inviting them in again this term to look at another area of school improvement. If they can be of any help to you, as parents, please inform the office, who will advise you on how best to contact the Chair of Governors, Miss. Lauren Gardiner.

### **Our Final Thoughts**

Our Federation always endeavours to do its very best, but sometimes we will not always get it right. Please contact the school if you realise an error or oversight has occurred or you are simply unhappy about something. We will always aim to resolve issues as quickly and as supportively as possible. However, we cannot do this if we do not know about it. In the first instance, please contact your class teacher, but if you feel the issue is more serious it may require a more senior leader or myself to resolve the issue.

I hope you all have a great term. Bradley Young - *Headteacher*